

FRIENDS OF CYBERZONE Meeting

Saturday 20th January 2007

Present:

Christine Rose (Chair)
Jacqui Paschoud (Vice Chair)
Pat Raven
David Donnelly
David Kenny-Singh
Janice Weaver
Hannah Raven

Alex Spiers (HoriZones Centre Manager)
Sadhana Sutar (CyberZone Manager)

Apologies

Jacqui Cook (Secretary)
John Paschoud (Treasurer)

Organisational issues

Jacqui requested clarification about CyberZone's expectations of parents and responsibility for the safety of children. Sadhana encouraged flexibility on the part of both staff and parents/carers to take responsibility of children because each child's needs and disabilities are different. She also encouraged on-going communication between staff and parents/carers to ensure that children are safe at CyberZone. Alex offered to draft a safety strategy or plan with Sadhana and agree it with FoC at the next meeting before publicising it. All agreed.

Action:

- Alex and Sadhana to draft safety strategy/ plan and present it at the next FoC meeting.

Proposed change to layout

Alex proposed changing the layout at CyberZone such that the children and young people use the computers in the main hall

while parents/carers use the computers in the IT room. This will take some time to organise due to the upgrading required of the computers in the main hall. Alex also suggested putting the sofas into the reception area. All were in favour of these changes.

Funds and Fundraising

FoC agreed to raise funds for flat screen monitors.

Jacqui identified the Cranston Fund as appropriate for FoC to apply to for a grant and she confirmed that there is no application form or deadline.

Sadhana reminded FoC that BBC CiN agreed to fund new PlayStation consoles and software. She expressed Alex's suggestion to order fewer PlayStations and order Nintendo Wiis with physically interactive software instead. Sadhana also encouraged FoC to agree this with BBC CiN and to then spend the grant money before the deadline.

Actions:

- Alex to e-mail Sally Fricker to contact BBC CiN (and copy John Paschoud) about the above.
- FoC to spend the BBC CiN grant money.

David Kenny-Singh suggested having a fun day at CyberZone to help raise money. He volunteered to host a quiz. This was agreed to in principle and will be discussed further at the next FoC meeting.

Action:

- Sadhana to invite Vince to support David in hosting the quiz.

Lewisham Council

Some concern was expressed that Lewisham Council may cut services for disabled adults and children in the near future. No firm plans or details were presented during the meeting to confirm this but the concern remained among those present.

Web Site

There were no updates regarding the web site except that Deborah Field will soon want to have a web site meeting with service users (date to be confirmed).

Transitions Workshops

Alex gave an update about the Transitions Workshops which service users will be consulted about in the next few weeks.

Ideas for Future Developments

These included:

- Recruiting a volunteer play leader
- Providing CyberZone certificates for Skills Swaps participation

Actions:

- Sadhana to advertise for volunteer play leader
- Sadhana to arrange CyberZone certificates with Angela

Future Meetings and Agendas

It was agreed that meetings should begin on time and that a timed agenda should be prepared 2 weeks in advance by the FoC Chair and Secretary and publicised at least 1 week in advance.

Next FoC meeting date

11am, Saturday 17th March 2007